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Message Text

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60
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /102 W
---------- 026099
R 231524Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1940
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06410

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GW, PL
SUBJECT: FRG-POLISH RELATIONS

REF: (A) BONN 5031; (B) BONN 2023

1. FOREIGN OFFICE POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL HAS TOLD THE CHARGE THAT HIS TALKS WITH THE POLES IN WARSAW APRIL 23-24 WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. VAN WELL CONFIRMED OUR REF A REPORT THAT THE POLISH POSITION OF DECEMBER 1973 ON ETHNIC GERMANS HAD BEEN RETRACTED AND THAT, "NOW, WE HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO EACH OTHER". WHILE THE POLES WERE RAISING SPURIOUS ARGUMENTS TO EXPLAIN THEIR CHANGE OF POSITION, VAN WELL SAID THE REAL REASON WAS THAT THE TENTATIVE UNDERSTANDING WORKED OUT LAST
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DECEMBER HAD BEEN REJECTED BY THE SOVIETS AND GDR, AND

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THUS ALSO BY THE POLISH CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND POLITICAL AUTHORITIES.

2. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, VAN WELL SAID HE COULD ONLY BE PESSIMISTIC REGARDING THE THREE HALF-DAY SESSIONS OF EXPLORATORY TALKS IN WARSAW THIS WEEK. VAN WELL SAID HE WOULD SEE WHETHER AND HOW "THE PIECES COULD BE PUT TOGETHER AGAIN", BUT STRESSED THAT HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO DO ANY MORE THAN EXPLORE WHAT COULD BE DONE.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 23 APR 1974
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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